

RADIO TV REPORTS, IN

4701 WILLARD AVENUE, CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20815 656-4068

FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM CBS Evening News STATION WDVM TV
CBS Network

DATE August 26, 1982 7:00 PM CITY Washington, DC

SUBJECT Changes in the White House Staff

DAN RATHER: In its public talk about economic programs the Reagan Administration's phrase of the year has been "mid-course correction". But there's another kind of mid-course correction insiders talk about privately. It has to do with changes in White House staff and the cabinet when the President starts the second half of his four-year term next year.

Start with the inner circle at the White House and Chief of Staff James Baker. He wants out of his job while he's still ahead. He'd like a cabinet post, badly wanted Al Haig's old job, but was disappointed when George Schultz got it instead. Baker would also like to be Attorney General, but there's no opening there and doesn't look like there's going to be one anytime soon.

Baker probably could have William Casey's job as CIA Chief, but Baker's not so sure that that's a good enough stepping stone for him.

National Security Advisor William Clark would be under heavy pressure to become Chief of Staff if Baker leaves, but Clark, our sources say, doesn't want it, thinks it's a dull, detailed job.

Michael Deaver, probably the most influential man in the Reagan inner circle. Deaver is once again telling skeptical associates that he won't be there next year. He's quoted as saying he has to make some money while Reagan is still President.

Deaver denies it, but some insiders suspect from this that Deaver doesn't expect Reagan to serve a second term.